

A1  
a side face of the engaging hole portion 7, so that the engaging head 6, which is expanded in its cross section, is engaged therewith. A tongue-like receiving portion 9, which is protruded slightly obliquely downward, is provided on a side opposite to the attaching side of the base plate 4 or base portion 5', so that the base portion 5 of the base plate 4 of the snap element 1 can be received.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel <sup>✓</sup>claims 7, amend claims 1, 3, 4, and 11, and add new claims 12-21, as follows:

A2  
1. (Amended) A snap fastener comprising a pair of snap elements capable of engaging with or disengaging from each other in an opposing direction, wherein the one snap element thereof has an engaging head provided protrudedly on a base plate, while the other snap element has an engaging hole portion provided in another base plate, with which the engaging head is capable of engaging, an attached body being attached onto a base portion of each base plate, any one of the snap elements having a grip portion while the other snap element has a receiving portion making contact with the base portion of said one snap element, and at least one of the snap elements having an attaching plate provided on the base portion of the base plate, the attaching plate having insertion holes through which the attached body is capable of being inserted.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

3. (Amended) A snap fastener according to claim 1, wherein one of the snap elements has the base portion protruded from an end of a flat base plate so as to have

13. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein the grip portion provided on any one of the snap elements is formed to protrude outward beyond an end portion or an edge of the base plate of the other snap element.

14. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein one of the snap elements has the base portion protruded from an end of a flat base plate so as to have an L-shaped cross section while the other snap element has a tongue-like receiving portion provided at an end of a flat base plate.

15. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein each of a pair of the snap elements has the grip portion protruded beyond the base portion of a mating base plate at an end of each base plate, while the receiving portion is provided inward of the grip portion.

16. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein the pair of snap elements are molded integrally by injection molding means with thermoplastic resin, respectively.

17. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein at least one of the snap elements is formed with injection molding means using thermoplastic resin such that the base portions of the base plates are molded and attached on the attached bodies.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

A3  
an L-shaped cross section while the other snap element has a tongue-like receiving portion provided at an end of a flat base plate.

4. (Amended) A snap fastener according to claim 1, wherein each of a pair of the snap elements has the grip portion protruded beyond the base portion of a mating base plate at an end of each base plate, while the receiving portion is provided inward of the grip portion.

A4  
11. (Amended) A snap fastener according to claim 1, wherein the attached bodies attached on the base portions of the base plates of the snap elements are disposed such that center lines of the attached bodies are on a same line.

A5  
--12. (New) A snap fastener comprising a plurality of pairs of snap elements capable of engaging with or disengaging from each other in an opposing direction, wherein one snap element of a pair of snap elements has an engaging head provided protrudedly on a base plate, while the other snap element of the pair of snap elements has an engaging hole portion provided in another base plate, with which the engaging head is capable of engaging, at least one of the snap elements having a grip portion while the other snap element has a receiving portion making contact with a base portion of the at least one snap element, and base portions of the base plates being attached on a pair of attached bodies at a predetermined interval such that they oppose each other.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

18. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein at least one of the snap elements has an attaching plate provided on the base portion of the base plate, the attaching plate having insertion holes through which the attached body is capable of being inserted.

19. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein at least one of the snap elements has an attaching portion provided on the base portion of the base plate, the attaching portion having an attaching hole with which the attached body is sewed.

20. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein a curtain is attached on the base portion of the base plate of one of the snap elements while a curtain rail runner is attached on the base portion of the base plate of the other snap element.

21. (New) A snap fastener according to claim 12, wherein the pair of attached bodies attached on the base portions of the base plates of the snap elements are disposed such that center lines of the attached bodies are on a same line. --

#### REMARKS

With this Amendment, the pending claims are claims 1-6 and 8-21. In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification. The Examiner rejected claims 3, 4, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Robson patent (U.S. Patent

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com